

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claim 15, and add new claims 16-17 as follows:

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A data transfer method for processing system which allows both processes to be executed in a first data processor and in a second data processor to communicate with each other by direct data transfer between user spaces of the data processors, wherein

communication via a first virtual interface connection between a first process in the first data processor and a second process in the second data processor is taken over by a second virtual interface connection between a third process in the first data processor and the second process in the second data processor,
the method comprising the step of:

setting a flag if the first process receives data which is transmitted via the first virtual interface connection;

issuing, from the first process to the second process, a request for intermission of data transmission to the first process;

starting in the first process to memorize data received in the first process,
intermitting the communication between the first process and ,in the second process via the first virtual interface connection , data transmission to the first process and replying from the second process to the first process an acknowledge of the request for intermission of data transmission;

confirming in the first process and the second process intermits the communication via the first virtual interface connection;

after the acknowledge of the request is received in the first process, copying ,after the step of confirming the memorized data which is received in the first process to be used in the third process;

establishing the second virtual interface connection between the third process and the second process in response to a reconnection request issued from the first process; and

taking over the communication from the first virtual interface connection to the second virtual interface connection ~~in response to a request from the first process~~ to continue the communication.

16. (New) The data transfer method as defined in claim 15, wherein said first process issues said reconnection request, after the copying of data to the third process is completed or it is confirmed from said flag that there is no data transmitted via the first virtual interface connection and received in the first process.
17. (New) The data transfer method as defined in claim 15, wherein said first process issues said request for intermission of data transmission to the second process after the third process requests to take over the communication with the second process.